

Proclamation



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY *December 10, 2009*

WHEREAS, Thursday, December 10, 2009, marks the 61st anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights signed by the United Nations General Assembly following the defeat of fascist expansionism and genocide; and

WHEREAS, All people share fundamental rights based solely on their common humanity; and

WHEREAS, As stated in the Preamble to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world;" and

WHEREAS, The City of Northampton has long held a prominent place in American history for our community's support of peace, social justice and human rights; and

WHEREAS, The City's formation of our Human Rights Commission is the tangible expression of our support for human rights; and

WHEREAS, The primary responsibility to promote respect for those rights and freedoms lies with each individual of this nation, and each of us can play a major role in enhancing human rights; and

WHEREAS On December 10, 2009, in observance of *Human Rights Day 2009: A Celebration and Call to Action*, community members will come together to publicly declare their support of humanity's hopes as expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

NOW,
THEREFORE, I, Mayor Mary Clare Higgins, do hereby proclaim December 10, 2009 to be:

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

in the City of Northampton. I invite our community to affirm and protect the human rights of all people as set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights so that these rights will flourish and will be made available to all.

In Witness whereof, I have set my hand and imprinted the City seal,
this 3rd day of December in the year 2009.



Mary Clare Higgins, Mayor